

# con|struct

## Celebrating Queensland Sculpture

con|struct: Celebrating Queensland Sculpture explores the extraordinarily diverse field of sculpture. It features the work of artists that represent the scope and depth of contemporary sculpture in South East Queensland. Artists Lincoln Austin, James and Eleanor Avery, Laurindo De Abreu Soto, Simone Eisler, Jason Fitzgerald, Stephen Hart, Hew Chee Fong, Stephen Newton, Charles Robb and Daniel Templeman have collectively worked in the sculptural realm for a number of decades.

The selected group of sculptors has disparate conceptual concerns and use a variety of materials in their works. What links each practice is a dedication to working in a three dimensional space and the exploration of process with the underpinning of construction and form-making.

Lincoln Austin's works range in scale and process markedly; from large scale sculpture through to delicate, intricate constructions. He uses geometry, pattern, systems and repetition to explore the potential of material.

The potential of material also drives the practices of Stephen Newton and Hew Chee Fong. Both work in large scale natural or organic materials such as stone and timber and approach the 'construction' process through an intuitive and instinctive manner, letting the materials' natural elements (both positive and negative) guide them through abrasion, carving and forming to create large scale sculptures that reveal what lies just below the surface.

Stephen Hart is well known for his intricately rendered and carved timber sculptures. His process of hand carving timber reminds us of the traditional craftsman labouring away in the studio. Jason Fitzgerald also uses timber to create constructed collections of forms that are fixed and pieced together through a process of selection, fastening, and colouring.

James and Eleanor Avery's work often begins with an exploration of historical sites and events, which are reinterpreted and reformulated with contemporary pop culture references. Their works are perfectly finished forms that come from laborious construction techniques.

Also highly developed from construction processes is the work of Daniel Templeman. His public realm artworks have become part of our urban landscape and are familiar place markers across the nation, however, what underpins this side of his practice is the exploration of shape, form and intricate minimalism.

Simone Eisler's practice is focused on space, time, form and structure and she moves from large scale sculptural installations to individual sculptural objects that reference concepts of physical transformation, species evolution and biodiversity within the overarching notion of a changing technological and natural world.

Laurindo De Abreu Soto uses a variety of materials and exceptional finishing techniques to reference a personal dedication to spiritualism.

Charles Robb's practice explores his interests in figurative and incidental form and can be described as an ongoing self-portraiture project. Exceptionally well made 'objects' are combined into small 'tableaux' or assemblages that retain a highly provisional quality.

con|struct: Celebrating Queensland Sculpture represents the depth and diversity of creative output that south east Queensland has to offer, and is testament to this select group of sculptors' commitment to their practice.